



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

REGION IX
Arizona, California,
Hawaii, Nevada, Guam

201 Mission Street
Suite 2210
San Francisco, CA 94105-1839
415-744-3133
415-744-2726 (fax)

JUL 23 2003

Mr. Jeff Morales
Office of the Director
Department of Transportation
Mr. Jeff Morales
1120 N Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Branch, Room 3500
For Abhijit Bagde, Federal Programming (MS 82)

Dear Mr. Morales:

We have completed our review of Amendment No. 6 for Madera County to the rural, non-Metropolitan Planning Organization (non-MPO) portion of the Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP)) submitted with your letter dated March 14, 2003. This amendment adds two Section 5311 operating assistance projects for Madera County and the City of Chowchilla into the FSTIP.

We accept this Amendment in accordance with 23 CFR 450 and find that this FSTIP amendment was developed based on a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process in accordance with 23 USC 134 and 49 USC 5303. The changes made to the program by this amendment are exempt from the requirement that a conformity determination be performed (40 CFR Sections 93.126 and/or 93.127). This finding has been coordinated with the regional office of the Environmental Protection Agency.

This letter also constitutes approval, and inclusion of Amendment No. 6 for the rural non-MPO portion of California's 2003/2004 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program with the understanding that FTA funding approval of projects is subject to the grantees meeting the necessary administrative requirements. Our approval is based on Caltran's assurance that the funding for these projects does not adversely impact the FSTIP Financial Plan.

Sincerely,

Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

cc: Mr. Wade Hobbs, FHWA, Division Office
Ms. Karina O'Connor, EPA
Mr. Abhijit Badge, Caltrans HQ